

# BRIDGETON PIONEER.

GEO. W. McCOWAN, Editor and Publisher

"Hew to the line, let the chips fall where they may."

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## NEW JERSEY M. E. CONFERENCE.

Detailed Reports of the Proceedings of the Ministerial Body.

### THE APPOINTMENTS READ.

A Few Changes in Bridgeton—Rev. Edmund Hewitt Succeeds Dr. Graw as Presiding Elder.

The sixty-fifth annual session of the New Jersey Methodist Episcopal Conference held its first business meeting in the Broadway Church, Camden, yesterday.

The opening session was held in the morning, at which the Conference was organized, and everything is now in shape to get down to business proper to-day. All trains to Camden yesterday morning carried ministers from all parts of the Conference districts, and at nine o'clock, when Bishop Mallalieu formally opened the session, nearly every member of the Conference was in the church.

The opening service was the administration of the Lord's Supper, under the direction of the Bishop. He was assisted by Presiding Elders G. L. Dobbins, William P. Davis, J. L. Roe and Dr. Thomas O'Hanlon, Rev. Dr. B. Harris, Dr. John S. Heisler, Dr. J. W. Marshall and Dr. G. B. Wight, of Camden, who is acting Presiding Elder of the Bridgeton District in Dr. Graw's place. Dr. Heisler made the opening prayer, and Presiding Elder Davis read the Scriptures. At the conclusion of the Communion service, Secretary J. H. Payran called the roll of the ministers, and nearly all responded.

Then followed an impressive memorial service for the ministers and ministers' wives who have passed away since the last Conference. They were Joseph B. Turpin, Jacob T. Price, Samuel H. Asay, P. Y. Calder, C. E. P. Mayhew and Jacob B. Graw. Dr. A. E. Ballard conducted the service and read the memoirs of Mr. Asay and Mr. Price, the latter one having been prepared by a son of the deceased.

Presiding Elder Dobbins read the memoir of Mr. Turpin, and, after Rev. Dr. W. C. McIntyre had presented a paper in memory of Mr. Calder and Rev. J. W. Nickelson had extolled the virtues of Mr. Mayhew, the Conference listened to a carefully prepared and lengthy memoir of Dr. Graw, compiled and read by Dr. Wight. When Dr. Wight concluded the Conference sang, "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

Dr. Ballard followed in reading short sketches of ministers' wives who died during the year. They were: Mrs. R. J. Andrews, Mrs. George Collins and Mrs. Noah Edwards.

After Dr. H. L. Gilmour had led the singing, the Conference proceeded to organize, resulting in the election of the following: Secretary, J. H. Payran, assistants, M. E. Snyder, J. L. Howard, J. B. Shaw, W. W. Ridgely, J. W. Presby, U. G. Haganman, William Mitchell.

Statistical Secretary, J. H. Boswell; assistants, J. R. Mason, C. R. Smith, R. T. Leary, J. D. Bills, S. G. Pitt, A. M. Morgan, J. W. Lynch, T. S. Hammond, Thos. S. Brock, D. E. Clair, J. G. Garrison, H. L. Shaw. Treasurer, H. J. Zellej; assistants, A. L. Izard, J. F. Sechrist, D. C. Cobb.

It was decided that the business sessions of the Conference be from 8.30 to 11.45 a. m.

After adjournment the ladies of Broadway Church served a turkey dinner to all the members of Conference in the church dining room.

A service of greeting and good will was held in the lecture room of the Broadway Church in the afternoon, at which addresses were made by Bishop Mallalieu, Dr. Marshall, pastor of the Conference church; Dr. Handley and Dr. O'Hanlon.

The first Pentecostal service of the Conference session was held in the afternoon in the First Church.

The Preachers' Aid Society held a business session in the afternoon at the Broadway Church, the members listening to the reading of the will of the late Rev. E. B. Lake, of Ocean City, who made a handsome bequest to the Aid Society, and named that society as the executor of his will.

The fifteenth anniversary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society,

of the Conference, was held in First Church, Mrs. Clinton B. Fisk, National President, presiding over the exercises. Mrs. C. F. Garrison, President of the Conference Society, gave the report of the Corresponding Secretary, showing over 2000 members. The Treasurer's report showed a splendid increase in the receipts of the society.

Mrs. Fisk followed the report with an urgent appeal for greater efforts in support of the work of the society. She said the work is growing as never before. "The demands are increasing and the work appeals to you for aid."

Dr. George E. Reed, President of Dickinson College, made an address on the work of the society. He said this is the age of organization. Everything is going into the vast organization scheme. Men are great organizers, but they are scarcely to be mentioned when compared with the women. The women of this organization have in the last twenty years raised about \$3,000,000.

The Church Extension Society celebrated its anniversary in the Conference Church in the evening. Dr. James W. Marshall, pastor of the church, presided. The anniversary opened by the congregation singing "My Country 'tis of Thee." Rev. W. S. Ludlow offered prayer, and the choir of Broadway Church rendered an anthem. Dr. John H. Guthridge, of the American University, of Washington, led in a responsive reading.

Dr. W. A. Spencer, one of the Secretaries of the Church Extension Society, was the speaker. The work of the society, he said, had largely increased since a few years ago, the work now covering all portions where the United States owns land. Dr. Spencer said Bishop Mallalieu had considerable to do with the erection of a large number of small churches in the West, he building them for \$50 each, which he personally appealed for.

Camden, March 7.—The second day of the New Jersey Conference opened with an increased attendance, and the work of the session was rushed with business-like precision.

The Conference has now gotten down to work in earnest and Bishop Mallalieu is showing the ministers that he knows how to hold them in check when they evince any disposition to become long-winded in an argument.

Bishop Mallalieu has already gained the highest regard of the ministers for his wise and careful rulings, and he is listened to very intently whenever he rises to address the Conference.

The Bishop has quietly intimated to the ministers that they will do wisely if they pray more for the Bishop and Presiding Elders, rather than holding caucuses and making appointments.

The preliminary devotional service this morning was well attended and the meeting proved to be a splendid one.

A resolution signed by W. W. Moffett, J. F. Shaw, J. M. Read and J. Ward Gamble, extending a formal welcome to the Bishop and declaring confidence in him, was passed by a unanimous rising vote.

On motion of J. Morgan Read the Conference voted to send its regrets and condolence to James Eckersley on the death of his wife and delegated T. Dugan to go to Seaville and conduct the funeral.

Revs. J. S. Heisler, J. Ward Gamble and S. H. Hann were constituted a committee to visit Pennington Seminary to view the improvements. Dr. Marshall then read the report of Dr. Thomas O'Hanlon for the work at the seminary during the year. The report showed that there were 186 students in the seminary now, a gain of twenty over last year. A gracious revival visited the seminary during the winter.

Camden, March 8.—The third day's session still finds a large question mark hanging over the New Jersey Conference—who is to be the successor of Dr. Graw as presiding elder of the Bridgeton District?

A report was current during the day to the effect that Dr. Davis would be transferred to the Bridgeton District and Dr. Wight would come to Trenton District inasmuch as the latter could not go to Bridgeton District again within six years of his first term of office.

It is known that Dr. Wight is considered a safe man, and therefore there are not a few who believe that this will be the outcome of the matter.

Under the skillful direction of Bishop Mallalieu a heap of business was disposed of to-day. The notable feature of the session was the address of Rev. Thomas O'Hanlon, D. D., in

behalf of Pennington Seminary, as it comes to the conference with a \$13,000 larger debt for improvements than the last conference warranted.

The devotional exercises were held from 8.30 to 9 o'clock. The members of the conference responded to the gentle chiding of the Bishop on account of their dereliction in this respect on the previous day. The Pentecostal Committee occupied seats on the platform and Dr. Gilmour led the singing.

At the beginning of the business sessions arrangements were made for a memorial service for Dr. Graw, Monday morning at 11 o'clock. A committee consisting of Jesse R. Thompson, N. J. Wright and George B. Wight were appointed to make the necessary arrangements.

Dr. C. B. Mason, a colored man, senior secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society, in a speech of a few moments in length, carried the conference by storm. He thanked them for their generous offering for the past year and urged them to continue for the year to come.

In calling up the Bridgeton District, Bishop Mallalieu said: "You don't know how I miss Dr. Graw. I met him first in '73, and always liked him. I admire a man of his convictions and was saddened to learn of his death. The news of it came at so late an hour that I did not deem it best to formally appoint any one in his place. I wanted to wait until I heard from the preachers in the district and the presiding elders and get their unanimous judgment, so I asked Dr. Wight to represent the district in the cabinet."

It was only on last Monday that Dr. Wight was called thus to act, and the time was all too short to make any attempt at a written report for the district, if he had the facts at hand. Thereupon Bridgeton was passed without any report.

It is estimated that there were about 1000 probationers received in the church during the year, and if this be true, the total number of probationers for the conference for the year 1900 would be about 5,000.

Bishop Mallalieu then proceeded to the calling of the effective elders of the districts. In this connection there was a little difference of opinion manifested as to whether the ministers should be asked to itemize their reports upon their collections, especially the "fifth" collection, that for the supernumerary fund.

The New Jersey Methodist Episcopal Conference, which has been in session in the Broadway Church, Camden, since Wednesday last, rushed through a volume of business Monday, and it is probable that adjournment will be reached at noon to-day. In fact, Dr. Marshall informed the Conference that the session would probably be brought to a close at this morning's session, at which time the appointments will be read.

The most important business of the session Monday was the adoption of the new constitution, placing New Jersey on record as the first of the larger conferences to act on the new laws. The matter was called up by the Bishop, and Dr. George B. Wight moved that the vote on the adoption or rejection of the constitution be taken without debate. In support of his motion, he said it was printed in full in the discipline, had been discussed in all its phases and must be adopted in full, amendments not being allowed. There was no opposition to the motion, and the vote was at once taken, resulting in the constitution being adopted by a vote of 117 to 5. The General Conference vote on the passage of the revised laws was 592 to 94.

Bishop Mallalieu's revival spirit, which has throughout the Conference deeply impressed the ministers, by his manner of leading the morning devotional services, was more vividly set forth during the consideration of the supernumerary fund.

Rev. S. E. Post, who has seen sixty years of service in the ministry, was telling the Conference of his work during his effective days, and spoke of the revivals he had gone through. The Bishop interrupted by asking Mr. Post if he thought a revival could be conducted in the summer. Mr. Post replied that he did, and had held them. "I wish," said the Bishop, "that I could get Methodist ministers to believe Christ would save souls in July, instead of waiting until January, when everybody has the grippe." Continuing, the Bishop referred to the ministers taking all day Tuesday to rest after attending the Preachers' meeting on Monday.

Levi Lawew and George W. Pine, of the New Brunswick District, and Julius C. Dodd, of the Camden Dis-

trict, were placed on the supernumerary list, at their request, and, with A. E. Ballard, J. P. Connelly, David D. Fisler, J. S. Heiler, J. H. Hatchinson, A. M. Lake, T. D. Sleeper, J. B. Westcott, J. E. Willey and H. G. Williams, who were continued in the relation, comprise the full list of supernumeraries.

Drs. John Handley and Jesse Thompson interposed objections to the consideration of the final report of the stewards, the former contending that if the report showed indications of a discussion it should be referred to the executive session, as matters would come up not for the public to hear, while Dr. Thompson insisted that the entire matter be referred to the executive session.

Dr. Marshall cited a rule which made the stewards' final report conclusive and not debatable, and both objectors withdrew their protests.

The report showed \$7546.20 as having been distributed to Conference claimants.

Professor Rogers, of Drew Theological Seminary, presented the interests of that institution, and also made an address on "New Discoveries." In presenting Professor Rogers, the Bishop said yesterday was the first time he had come in contact with him since they first met, sixteen years ago.

The Committee on Women's Missions presented a report, recommending the work of the society to the churches for aid, and welcoming the society's representatives to the churches to plead their cause.

At 10 o'clock the Conference listened to the annual missionary sermon by Rev. A. H. Eberhardt, of Freehold. After giving interesting statistics showing the enormous amount of money contributed to the mission cause by the Methodist Church, Mr. Eberhardt said almost one-half of the entire amount was kept in this country to civilize and Christianize the foreigners who have taken up a permanent residence in our bounds. The gospel, he said, was bound to follow exploration and discovery, and at length the speaker told of the work of the country's new possessions in the Philippines. Mr. Eberhardt also spoke of the great increase in railroad building, all of which, he said, tended to increase the spread of the gospel. Following the sermon the Bishop ordained Ross Slack, of Trenton, a deacon.

The Conference confirmed the following Board of Examiners appointed by the Bishop to serve for four years: J. B. Haines, M. E. Snyder, S. M. Vansant, William Adams, John Allen, Jr., Henry Belting, J. D. Bills, Wright Eckersley, C. B. Fisler, H. F. Gravatt, E. E. C. Hulse, T. S. Hammond, A. Lawrence, W. S. Mitchell, Percy Perinchief, S. G. Pitt, Samuel Sargeant, J. F. Sechrist.

The next half hour was spent in a service in memory of Dr. J. B. Graw, conducted by Jesse R. Thompson. Addresses were made by Dr. Thomas O'Hanlon, Dr. J. W. Morris, Bishop Mallalieu and Dr. Thompson. The Bishop spoke of the late divine as he met him on the floor of General Conference, and characterized him as a man of opinions of his own, and whose honesty and sincerity in advocating a measure was never doubted.

It was decided to hold an executive session at 8.30 this morning. A resolution was passed commending the work of Dr. Frank P. Parkin, of Trenton, and wishing him success in his new field of labor, he being slated for a transfer to the Philadelphia Conference.

The appointments were read at the close of the morning session. We give those of Bridgeton District.

The sessions of the New Jersey Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Broadway Church, Camden, came to a close shortly after noon Tuesday with the reading of the appointments by Bishop Mallalieu. The closing session was one of the busiest of the week, a large number of reports of the various Conference committees being read and adopted without discussion. An audience numbering nearly 2000 people gathered in the auditorium and Sunday school temple to witness the proceedings of the closing hours and listen to the reading of the appointments.

J. H. Boswell, the Statistical Secretary of the Conference, presented his annual report, showing the following: There are 4309 probationers and 51,386 full members; number of local preachers, 248; number of deacons, 699; children baptized, 1582; adults baptized, 1045; scholars 542,83; churches, 339; church property value, \$529,000; building and improvements, \$76,943; paid on old indebtedness, \$64,259;

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## HUNT BROTHERS.

present indebtedness, \$518,066; pastors' support, \$231,374.  
Conference Treasurer H. J. Zellej reported missionary collections amounting to \$288,451; as follows: Bridgeton Districts, \$729.04; Camden, \$475.79; New Brunswick, \$605.34; Trenton, \$6993.25. The total benevolent collections aggregated \$54,067.16, an increase of \$3077.96.  
The following resolutions by S. E. Post was adopted:  
"Whereas, The penalty appears to be entirely inadequate to prevent the unlawful sale of intoxicating liquors; therefore, be it  
"Resolved, That a committee be appointed by this Conference to secure the passage of a law by the next Legislature which shall increase the penalty now prescribed by law to make void the license of any violator from the time of his or her conviction, and that shall make such violator ineligible to secure a license forever thereafter in the State of New Jersey."

A resolution was adopted voicing the sentiment of Conference against the Pan-American Exposition remaining open on Sunday.  
An invitation was received from Broadway Church, Salem, as a place for the next meeting of Conference. This invitation and any others that may be received were ordered referred to the Presiding Elders for their action.  
In the closing hour of the session, the Bishop did more talking than throughout the six days. The object in so doing was to prepare the ministers for the changes to be announced, some of them to be fields less desirable than they then occupied.  
The Bishop told of the way he heard his first appointment. It had somewhat staggered him, for it was to a field that was forsaken, had no church building, and no organization. In fact, there was not anything there. He did not know what to do about it, although his mother had given the advice to him when a boy and he had resolved to take it, to make the best out of every circumstance in which he found himself placed. He did not go his first Sunday. His father, who had not favored his going into the Methodist ministry, told him that if he had not any house in which to preach, to go get a dry goods box, make a pulpit out of it, and set it up on the common in this town where he had been sent, only a few miles from his home.  
But he did not act right away, and the next Sunday while at church he saw the Presiding Elder coming toward him, and thereupon young Mallalieu started for his field. He went to work with a vim and in six months he had a good congregation. From that day he had never hesitated to go where he was sent.

**BRIDGETON DISTRICT.**  
Presiding Elder—E. Hewitt.  
Alloway—W. E. Greenbank.  
Anglesea and Wildwood—H. P. Grimm.  
Asbury—A. Jagers.  
Auburn—G. S. Goff.  
Aura and Richwood—J. W. Poolton.  
Bridgeton District—Central, W. W. Moffett; Commerce Street, A. Lawrence; East Church, supply; Fourth, W. W. Ridgely; Trinity, D. B. Harris; Wesley Memorial, Alphonso Dare.  
Canton—Supply.

**Rumored Railroad Deal.**  
Cape May, March 10.—It is reported here that a syndicate in which Thomas Robb, of Philadelphia, is the prominent factor, has purchased a majority of the stock of the Delaware Bay and Sewell's Point Trolley Railroad Company, and will elect officers and assume control of the property in a few days. New rails will be laid and new rolling stock put on the road. The deal, it is said, is part of a movement to consolidate Reading and Queen Anne Railroad interests, together with certain local interests allied with the Queen Anne project for establishing a new connection between Baltimore and Cape May. The trolley railroad is bonded for \$150,000, and its affairs are likely to be finally settled by foreclosure proceedings, probably at an early date.

**Mrs. Riley Dead.**  
Mrs. Mary Riley, widow of the late Jonathan Riley, died Saturday evening at six o'clock, aged 86 years. For two months she has been suffering from paralysis. Mrs. Riley lived with Mrs. Sarah Riley, widow of the late Jona. Riley, Jr., at Washington and Laurel streets. Mrs. Riley has three children surviving, Charles, of Trenton, Joseph, seaman; and Mrs. Matilda Barker, of this city.

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